

THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

March 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on March 20, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Glenview Golf Course with the following members present: Mmes. Driehaus and Ingram and Messrs. Fultz, Moeddel, and Smith, with Ms. Driehaus presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Barnes, Shannon, Simmons, and Kazin and Messrs. Thomas, Bigham, Koopman, Williams, LeConey, and Ross.

MINUTES

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the minutes of the February 20 and March 6, 2007 meetings as submitted.

Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Notice in *City Matters* Publication

There was an item in the *City Matters* publication regarding CRC winning top honors at the annual Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. This item was received for filing.

Letter Received from The Reds Community Fund

Mike Thomas received a letter from Charley Frank and Matt Crawford of the Reds Community Fund thanking him for his contributions to the Reds "Field Day" 2007. This item was received for filing.

Letter Received from Tracy A. Techau of the Dan Beard Council

Tracy A. Techau of the Boy Scouts of America, Dan Beard Council, sent Mike Thomas a letter acknowledging Cincinnati Recreation Commission as a sponsor of Challenge Camp. This item was received for filing.

Letter Received from The Reds Community Fund

Kathy Lang received a letter from Charley Frank and Matt Crawford of the Reds Community Fund thanking her for her contributions to the Reds "Field Day" 2007. This item was received for filing.

Email from Charlie DeSando from District 4/9 of Knothole

Mike Thomas received an email from Charlie DeSando commending Marketia Hoff and Ron Odenbeck for their help with a problem Knothole District 4/9 was having with practice fields. This item was received for filing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Program Highlight – Golf Division

Rob Williams advised that 2006 was a very good year for Golf. Revenue was up 4% and Rounds were up 2% over the previous year.

Mr. Williams advised that each year an award is given for the top CRC Golf Course. The 2006 winner was Avon Fields. Awards were presented to Rick Gullion, Turf Manager at Avon Fields and Brian King, Golf Pro, Ron Dumas and Michael Smith, Assistant Golf Pros at Avon.

Alayne Kazin of the Therapeutic Division was present to acknowledge the efforts of two Golf employees who go above and beyond the call of duty working with the Adaptive Golf Program. Plaques were presented to Bill Terasa and James Peters for their outstanding contributions.

Steve Pacella, General Manager, welcomed Commission to the Glenview Golf Course and introduced Mr. Joe Livingood, Vice President at Billy Casper Golf. Mr. Livingood stated that staff has done a wonderful job and it is a pleasure to watch the Cincinnati golf program grow.

Mr. Pacella and Marketing Manager Jill Timon gave a power point presentation of the Golf Division 2006 Year in Review. Mr. Pacella stated that 2006, the 5th year of the Cincinnati Recreation Commission and Billy Casper Golf partnership, saw total rounds of 288,988 and total revenue of \$6,091,448. Outing sales efforts increased in revenue and rounds about 15%. Merchandise programs, top line revenue increased \$55,823. The Food and Beverage Program had a 6% increase over the prior year.

Every service-oriented staff member at Billy Casper Golf is required to attend an orientation and training program. Ms. Timon advised that the primary concern of all employees is to make sure that every player has a good time. The Reeves Grand Opening on June 2 and 3 was a very successful event. Ms. Timon stated that the sales goal is to

increase outing rounds by 8% and they want to do an additional 20 events in the Glenview back room.

Rev. Smith commented on the outstanding conditions of the golf courses. Ms. Driehaus relayed that an associate of hers stated that they no longer play at the Cincinnati Golf Courses because they are always so crowded! Ms. Driehaus congratulated staff and Billy Casper Golf staff on doing such a good job.

Information and Briefing Items

Mike Thomas thanked the team who helped put the Youth and Teen Strategic Plan together. Rachel Smith was present at the meeting and Mr. Thomas introduced her to Commission Members. Mike Thomas applauded Ms. Smith's dedicated efforts on the project.

Mr. Thomas announced two recent promotions. He advised that we have filled our Outdoor Maintenance Supervisor position and a Supervising Recreation Coordinator position.

Mr. Thomas introduced Daryl Ross and congratulated him on his promotion to Outdoor Maintenance Supervisor. Mr. Ross advised that he had worked for the late Maintenance Supervisor, Bill Blevins, and learned a lot from him. Mr. Ross stated that we are here to carry on the tradition of excellent outdoor maintenance.

Mr. Thomas then introduced Stella Barnes as the officially appointed Supervising Recreation Coordinator of the Central Region. Ms. Barnes has been working in this position on a temporary basis for almost a year. Ms. Barnes thanked Mr. Thomas for having confidence in her and stated that she is very glad to be officially promoted to this position.

Commission congratulated Ms. Barnes and Mr. Ross on their promotions.

Youth Commission Member Report

Youth Commission Member, Tinisha Brewer, was not present at the meeting, but the Youth Commission Member Report had been presented to Commission. This item was received for filing.

NEW BUSINESS

Casper Golf Management, Inc. Annual Plan for 2007

The Golf 2007 Annual Plan was forwarded to Commission members in January 2007 for their review. A summary of the 2007 Primary Business Goals along with the plan to achieve these goals, and the Business Strategy was provided to Commission.

Ms. Ingram moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the Golf 2007 Annual Plan.

Motion passed.

Request from National Multiple Sclerosis Society for Rule Exemption

Sara Jefferson, MS Bike Ride Manager for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, was present to request a rule exemption to allow the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to conduct a raffle on site during the MS Walk on April 28, 2007. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is a non-profit, charitable organization.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to allow a rule exemption to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to conduct a raffle during the MS Walk on April 28, 2007.

Motion passed.

Request from Cincinnati Folk Life to Charge Admission

Ms. JoAnn Buck from the Cincinnati Folk Life organization was present to request a rule exemption to allow them to charge admission for the Cincinnati Celtic Festival to be held September 15 and 16, 2007 at Yeatman's Cove. Ms. Buck explained that they have no choice but to charge admission in order to be able to cover costs of providing the event. This is the 15th year for the event.

Mr. Moeddel and Ms. Ingram expressed concern about being consistent in the Commission's approval of rule exemption requests. Mr. Moeddel questioned if it is just 501-c organizations that we approve rule exemptions for or if there are other factors involved. Ms. Driehaus commented that most of the event sponsors that request to charge admission are for musical events due to the high cost involved in presenting their events. Rev. Smith stated that Commission should review the event policy before the next meeting in order to be able to make a decision on rule exemptions. Ms. Ingram requested a listing of who has requested rule exemptions in the past, who has been approved for exemption, and who has been denied. Ms. Driehaus stated that it is important that the organization producing the event provide the budget for their event at

the time of their request. It is also important to make the policy clear to the Waterfront staff.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the Cincinnati Folk Life's request to charge admission to the Celtic Festival as follows: \$8.00 for ages 13 and over, and \$5.00 for students, active military, and seniors 65 and over with proper identification. There will be no charge for children 12 and under. All proceeds from the fees will be used to offset the cost of producing the event.

Motion passed.

Field Trips

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the field trips for various CRC centers and programs as submitted.

Motion passed.

Youth Strategic Plan

Mike Thomas explained that the Youth Strategic Plan is a concept piece. The plan does not involve any expenditures. Mr. Thomas stated that we do really well in providing youth programming, we don't do so well in communicating what we do. Rev. Smith advised that this would be a great way to communicate what we are doing. Mr. Moeddel would like to see goals and comparisons. Ms. Ingram would like to see updates on an ongoing basis.

Ms. Ingram moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the Youth Strategic Plan.

Motion passed.

2007 Municipal Advisory Councils

Ms. Driehaus expressed concern over the lack of diversity on the Baseball Advisory Council and questioned how the Council is comprised. Mr. Thomas will have staff research this issue and report his findings back to Commission

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Ingram, to approve the 2007 Municipal Advisory Councils with the exception of the Baseball Advisory Council pending the results of the above concerns.

Motion passed.

2007 Senior Center Advisory Councils

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the 2007 Senior Center Advisory Councils as submitted.

Motion passed.

Schmidt Boat Ramp Rental Agreement Renewal

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the renewal of the rental agreement with Jason Barney at the Schmidt Boat Ramp. The lease is for three years with two optional periods of three years and requires the tenant to pay the fair market value of the rented space as well as all utilities with the exception of the water bill. The effective date of this agreement is May 1, 2007.

Motion passed.

Riverside Boat Ramp Rental Agreement Renewal

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the renewal of the rental agreement with Stephen Duncan at the Riverside Boat Ramp. The lease is for three years with two optional periods of three years and requires the tenant to pay the fair market value of the rented space as well as all utilities with the exception of the water bill. The effective date of this agreement is April 1, 2007.

Motion passed.

Hille Ballfield Rental Agreement Renewal

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the renewal of the rental agreement with Francis Emsicke at the Hille Ballfield. The lease is for three years with two optional periods of three years and requires the tenant to pay the fair market value of the rented space as well as all utilities with the exception of the water bill. The effective date of this agreement is June 1, 2007.

Motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Zoning Chapter

The intent of the Parks and Recreation Zoning Chapter is to insure a public notification process before any property is sold or the use of that property changed. The Recreation Department has always gone to the community before proceeding with any sale or change of use of our property. This chapter will affect purchasers more than the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the Parks and Recreation Zoning Chapter.

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Armleder Family Aquatic Center

The Armleder Family Trust requires CRC to own the land that the Armleder Family Aquatic Center is developed on. Cincinnati Public Schools is not interested in transferring the land behind the Hirsch Community Center, where the aquatic center was originally to be built, to CRC. CRC has two options. One is to construct the pool on the existing parking lot at Hirsch and build a new parking lot on the CPS land. The second option is to construct the pool at the current Avon pool site. The community and CRC staff would prefer to build on the property at Hirsch. Construction could begin sooner if the Hirsch site is utilized.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the site change for construction of the Armleder Family Aquatic Center to existing property at Hirsch.

Motion passed.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Mike Thomas would like to invite the City Manager to the April 17, 2007 meeting of the Commission. Commission agreed with this recommendation.

Ms. Ingram would like Commission to be up-to-date on the Board of Education Facility Plan. She would like to have an update given at the Commission meetings.

Ms. Driehaus stated that she and Rev. Smith are going to meet with Mayor Mallory on March 30, 2007 to provide him with the CRC pool plan for this summer.

Ms. Driehaus advised that the Par Group, Public Management Consultants, has provided information on candidates from our Director's search. This information will be brought forth for Executive Session at the April 17, 2007 meeting.

COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Cincinnati Recreation Commission Office Main Board Room.

Meeting Adjourned.

Denise M. Driehaus

Michael A. Thomas

/kss